General Douglas MacArthur, center, led the Inchon landing, a surprise move that turned the tide of war in the Allies' favor in September, 1950. After the landing, he and his aides inspected the area near Inchon and Seoul, above.

U.S. Army

commander in chief of the United Nations Command. The command had authority over all the Allies—South Koreans, Americans, and the troops from other UN countries. MacArthur directed Allied operations from his headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. On July 13, Lt. Gen. Walton H. Walker, head of the U.S. Eighth Army, became field commander of the Allied ground forces in Korea.

Units of the U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division and 25th Infantry Division landed in Korea on July 19 to aid the outnumbered men of the 24th Division. But another city, Taejon, fell to the Communists on July 21.

The Pusan Perimeter. The U.S. 1st Marine Provisional Brigade and the 2nd Infantry Division of the Army arrived in South Korea in late July. But the Allies were forced back to the Pusan Perimeter by August 2. The Pusan Perimeter was a battle line in the southeast corner of South Korea. It extended roughly from the city of Pohang on the southeast coast, west around Taegu, and south and southeast nearly to Pusan. The Naktong River was the boundary of most of the area.

The fighting at the Pusan Perimeter became a turning point in the war. The North Koreans lost about 58,000 men and much equipment while advancing to the area.

The rapid growth of American military strength gave General Walker flexibility in the use of his men. North Korea tried to break through the perimeter by making scattered attacks along it. Walker reacted by using reserves to meet each enemy thrust, keeping his main defense line intact. Overhead, U.S. planes provided air support and fired at the long enemy supply lines. More American tanks and artillery arrived at Pusan to strengthen the defense of the perimeter.

The North Koreans saw that the Allies were gaining military superiority. Desperately, they mounted a major attack and succeeded in crossing the Naktong River on August 6. But U.S. Marines and Army infantrymen counterattacked and prevented a general breakthrough. The North Koreans advanced to within shelling distance of Taegu, but major losses of men and equipment forced them to pull back on August 25. The Communists attacked the Pusan Perimeter again on September 3. They captured Pohang three days later, but the Allies halted the enemy advance on September 8.

The Inchon Landing was a surprise move that changed the course of the war. On Sept. 15, 1950, marines and soldiers of the U.S. X (10th) Corps sailed from Japan to Inchon, on the northwest coast of South Korea. General MacArthur personally directed the amphibious landing. It required especially careful planning because the tides at Inchon vary more than 30 feet (9 meters). Each boat had to land at high tide because any boat near the shore when the tide dropped would be trapped in mud. The troops who landed at Inchon cut off the North Koreans in the Pusan Perimeter area from those north of Inchon.

Commanded by Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, the X Corps moved toward Seoul, 24 miles (39 kilometers) northeast of Inchon. After a bitter battle, MacArthur announced the capture of Seoul on September 26.

the need to settle disputes peacefully. On March 28, the Communists accepted an earlier offer by the UN Command for an exchange of sick and wounded prisoners. The Communists also indicated that the truce talks should be resumed. The prisoner exchange took place in April and May. The UN Command received 684 sick and wounded men, including 149 Americans. It returned 6,670 Communist prisoners.

The truce talks were resumed on April 26, and the Communists accepted voluntary repatriation. They agreed to let prisoners indicate their choice to the Neutral Nations' Repatriation Commission, which consisted of representatives of Czechoslovakia, India, Poland, Sweden, and Switzerland.

A truce was signed on July 27, 1953, and the fighting ended. A buffer zone 2½ miles (4 kilometers) wide along the final battle line divided the two sides. South Korea gained about 1,500 square miles (3,880 square kilometers) of territory. Both sides agreed not to increase their military strength. A Military Armistice Commission, with representatives from both sides, was set up to enforce the truce terms. The truce also provided for a political conference to work out a final settlement.

After the truce was signed, each side charged the other with torture and starvation of prisoners, and other war crimes. The North Koreans and Chinese Communists were also accused of brainwashing prisoners (see BRAINWASHING). The UN General Assembly adopted a general resolution condemning such acts.

The United States spent about $67 billion on the war. Almost all parts of Korea were heavily damaged. About 1 million civilians were killed in South Korea, and property damage was estimated at more than $1 billion. Statistics were not given for civilian deaths and damage in North Korea.

Prisoner Exchange. The UN Command and the Communists completed an exchange of 88,559 prisoners in September, 1953. The Neutral Nations' Repatriation Commission took custody of prisoners who refused to return to their homelands. The truce provided that delegates from the various countries could visit these prisoners and try to persuade them to go home. But 14,227 Chinese, 7,582 North Koreans, 325 South Koreans, 21 Americans, and 1 Briton refused to return. Some of these men later changed their minds.

Peace Negotiations. In 1954, Russian officials and representatives of countries that had fought in Korea met in Geneva, Switzerland. But the negotiators failed to draw up a permanent peace plan. Nor were they able to settle the question of unifying Korea. A permanent peace treaty has never been signed.

For information about events in Korea since the war, see KOREA (History).   WALTER G. HERMES

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Outline

Questions

What events led to the Korean War?

Why was the role of the UN unique in the war?

What was the Pusan Perimeter? MIG Alley?

Why did the Inchon Landing require especially careful planning?

Why did the UN Command adjourn the truce talks in 1952?

Why did Russia fail to veto the UN Security Council resolution of June 25, 1950?

What were the provisions of the 1953 truce?

Why was the last part of the war sometimes called the "Battle for the Hills"?

Why did President Truman relieve General MacArthur from command?

What two aviation "firsts" occurred during the war?

Reading and Study Guide

KOREMATSU V. UNITED STATES. See SUPREME COURT OF THE U.S. (table: Landmark Decisions).

KORIN, *koh rihn,* **OGATA,** *ohgah tah* (1658-1716), was a Japanese painter. His art is best seen on folding screens intended to beautify a room. He was an expert in turning his subjects, usually landscapes and close-ups of flowers, into novel, eye-catching designs. He had an extraordinary sense of color and pattern, but did not care for storytelling in drawing. His painting, *Matsushima,* appears in color in the PAINTING article. He was born in Kyoto.   ALEXANDER C. SOPER

KORNBERG, ARTHUR. See CELL (The 1900's); NOBEL PRIZES (table: Nobel Prizes for Physiology or Medicine—1959).

KORNILOV, LAVR. See RUSSIA (October Revolution).

KORSAKOFF'S PSYCHOSIS. See ALCOHOLISM.

KORYO. See KOREA (Early Years).

KORZENIOWSKI, JÓZEF. See CONRAD, JOSEPH.

KORZYBSKI, ALFRED. See SEMANTICS.

KOSCIUSKO, MOUNT. See MOUNT KOSCIUSKO.

KOSCIUSKO, *KAHS ih UHS koh,* or *kawsh CHOOSH kaw,* **THADDEUS** (1746-1817), also spelled KOSCIUSZKO, was a Polish patriot who fought for freedom in America and Poland. Because of this, he is often called the *Hero of Two Worlds.*

Kosciusko arrived in America in August, 1776. He

—— MILITARY CASUALTIES IN THE KOREAN WAR ——

	Total Casualties	Dead	Wounded	Prisoners or Missing
South Korea	400,167	58,127	175,743	166,297
United States	162,708	54,246	103,284	5,178
Other United Nations	17,260	3,194	11,297	2,769
	580,135	115,567	290,324	174,244

	Total Casualties	Dead or Wounded	Prisoners
China	967,000	945,000	22,000
North Korea	624,000	522,000	102,000
	1,591,000	1,467,000	124,000